

## ON TWO NEW SPECIES OF ANTELOPES.

By THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCILD.

(Plate IV.)

1. *Cobus penricei* sp. nov.

(Plate IV., fig. 1.)

AT once distinguishable from its allies, *Cobus ellipsiprymnus*, *C. defassa*,\* and *C. unctuosus*, by its intensely blackish colour. The muzzle is whitish, the face black, interspersed with rufous hairs between the horns. The usual white stripe passes from in front and over the eye to the base of the horns. Ears outside rufous brown, with blackish tips and edges, inside white. Sides of face, neck, and body deep brownish black, plentifully interspersed with reddish brown hairs, all of them being white at base, which gives the animal a colour that in a horse is called "blue-roan." This latter colour is more conspicuous on the belly, where the hairs are longer, but much less on the legs and hind half of the back, which parts are almost uniform brownish black. Tail black above, white below. There is a large patch of white on the upper throat.

The hornless *female* is similar in colour, but the ears are less rufous and more brown.

The horns are much shorter than those of its three allies, and stouter in proportion. Their rings are closer together than on the horns of *C. ellipsiprymnus* and *C. defassa*, but in their thickness and depth come nearest to those of *C. defassa*. The skull is much narrower behind the horns than in *C. defassa*, as is also the nasal.

Front legs (in skin), 19 inches; hind legs, 22; ears,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches; horns along the curve in three bulls, 19,  $24\frac{1}{2}$ , and 28 inches.

These new Waterbucks were shot by Mr. Penrice near a place known as Bongo, on the banks of the Kuvali River, about one hundred miles south-east of Benguella and about fifty miles from Caconda. Mr. Penrice writes in a letter to Mr. Rowland Ward: "These antelopes have no white mark over the rump, the only whitish colour being on the belly. They are pretty numerous at the locality named above, but they are not found nearer the coast. They have a strong smell, and I have often smelt them before sighting them. The cows have no horns, and as a rule bulls and cows are found in separate troops. The flesh is good to eat. The Boers call them 'Kringhart,' the same name they give to the waterbuck in the Transvaal."

Type of *male* and *female* in my Museum at Tring. The plate represents the head of the new species and horns of *C. ellipsiprymnus* and *C. defassa* to show the position of the rings.

The species is named in honour of its discoverer.

\* The name must be spelt *defassa*, and not *defassus*, as *defassa* is a native name. It is, however, spelt *defassus* in several books, and also on the plate, by mistake.



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